

## A NEW SPECIES OF *LEYCESTERIA* WALL. (CAPRIFOLIACEAE) FROM ARUNACHAL PRADESH<sup>1</sup>

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(With a text-figure)

A new species of *Leycesteria* Wall. is described and illustrated. A key to the six species under the genus *Leycesteria* Wall. is also given for easy diagnosis.

### *Leycesteria dibangvalliensis* sp. nov.

Affinis *L. stipulatae* (Hook. f. & Thoms.) Fritsch, sed ramis conspicue fistulosis, plus minus glabris, stipulis magnis, stylo pubescente differt.

**Typus:** Holotypus lectus S.K. Das ad locum Arunachal Pradesh, Dibang Valley district, Tiwari Gaon, Mahao Sanctuary, c. 1500 m, die 3.1.1988, sub numero 2903, et positus in CAL. Isotypi positus in ARUN.

Scandent shrubs, 1.5-2.5 m; branches terete, striate, conspicuously fistulose, sparsely glandular pubescent particularly at and near nodes, often glabrate or glabrous internodes and older parts; bark thin, dull grey. Leaves simple, stipulate, opposite superposed, nearly equal in pair, ovate to ovate-lanceolate, (8-) 12-15 (-20) x (4-) 7-9 (-12) cm, equilateral or slightly inequilateral; base rounded to subcordate; apex acuminate to caudate-acuminate; margin dentate, teeth ending in distinct gland, often recurved; venation pinnate, 4-8 nerves arise from base of lamina or 2-4 nerves arise from base and 2-4 nerves sub-basal, in addition to basal nerves 4-6 lateral nerves on either side of midrib; upper surfaces of lamina rugose or rugulose due to impressed reticulations, lower surfaces alveolate due to raised reticulations; lamina thinly coriaceous, on drying turn dull green above and grey to brown beneath; upper

surfaces glabrous except pubescent nerves, lower surfaces densely lanuginous throughout, hairs soft, crisped; petioles strongly channelled, (2-) 4-6.5 (-7.5) mm long, sparsely to densely puberulous. Stipules interpetiolar, foliaceous, distinctly unequal in pair, often basally adnate with the petioles, orbicular to suborbicular, reticulations and texture nearly as those of leaves, margin subentire to denticulate, recurved; larger of the pair often reflexed downward, adpressed with branches, (6-) 10-17 (-21) x (9-) 18-25 (-29) mm; smaller of the pair always erect, (4-) 6-14 (-16) x (4-) 9-20 (-22) mm.

Inflorescence axillary, pseudo-verticillate, much shorter than subtending leaves, 2-4 cm long peduncles densely clothed with ferruginous glandular hairs, bracteate, bracteolate, 6 flowers in each whorl; flowers sessile or subsessile; bracts in series at base of each peduncle and remain enclosed by stipules, ovate-acuminate to narrowly triangular, 3-5 x 1.5-2.5 mm, strongly keeled, upper surfaces dense ferruginously puberulous, lower surfaces glabrous or very sparsely puberulous; bracteole 2-whorled, the bracteoles in outer whorl larger, usually 4, more or less foliaceous, broadly ovate, 5-8 x 3.5-5 mm, base subcordate to truncate, apex acute, margin entire, ciliate, upper surfaces dense ferruginously puberulous, lower surfaces sparsely puberulous, longitudinally veined, membranous; bracteoles in inner whorl adpressed with the receptacle, smaller, ovate or ovate-oblong, other characters like those of outer whorls. Receptacle ovoid-attenuate, 6-8 x

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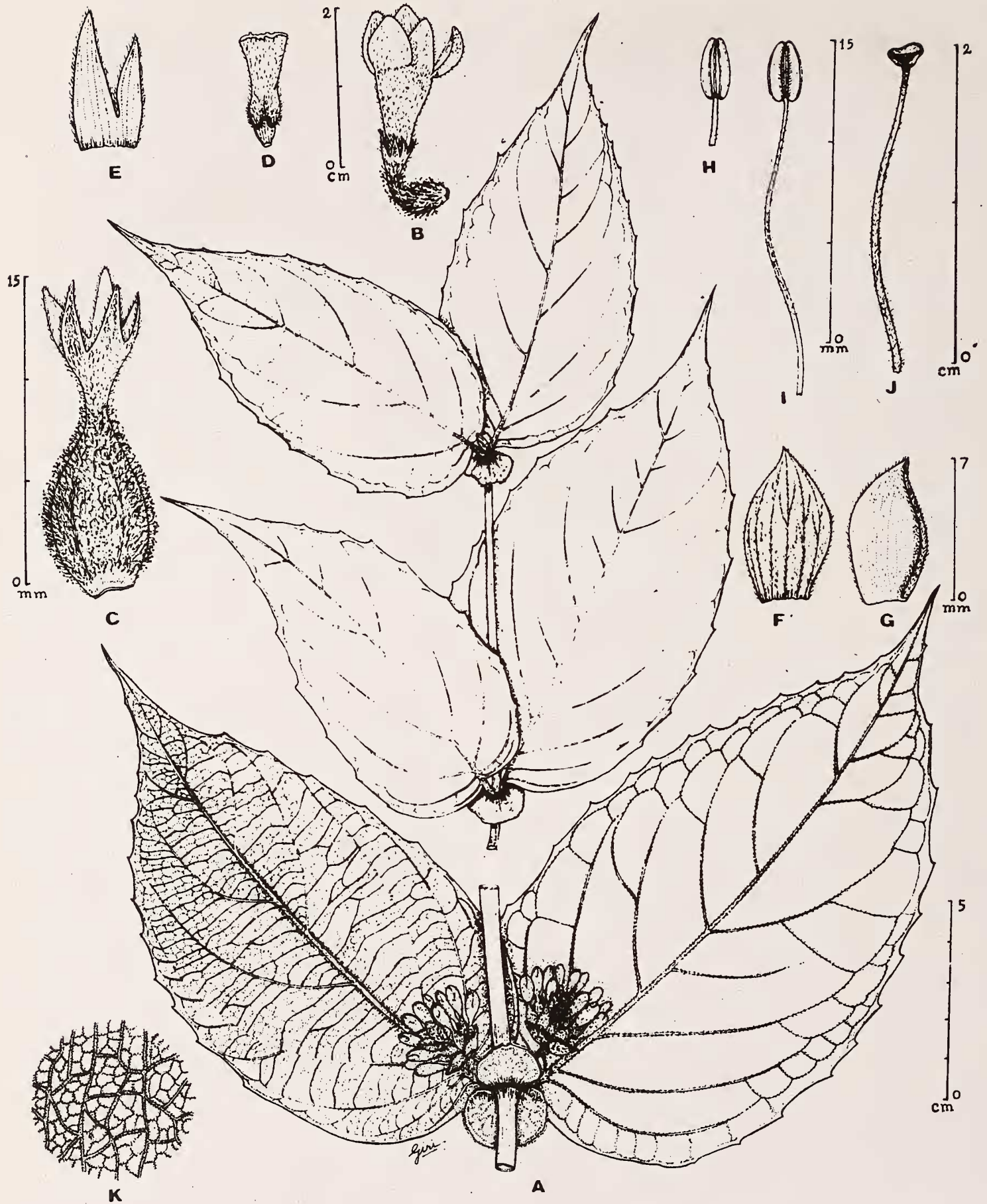


Fig. 1: A - K: *Leycesteria dibangvalliensis* sp. nov.

A: Habit, B: Flower, C: Calyx, D: Basal part of corolla-tube, E: Calyx lobes (Ventral view), F-G: Bracteoles, H: Anther (ventral view), I: Stamen showing hairs along the connective of another dorsally, J: Style & stigma, K: Part of lower surface of leaf (magnified).

3.5-5 mm, straight or slightly curved upward, dense ferrugineously glandular pilose. Calyx concrescent with ovary, calyx-tubes 1-2 mm long, widened towards apices, dense brownish or ferrugineously glandular pilose; 5-lobed, lobes subequal or distinctly unequal, ovate-oblong to narrowly oblong, 3.5-5 x 1-1.5 mm, apex acute, glandular pubescent above, glabrous beneath, longitudinally veined, membranous, usually persistent. Corolla whitish, regular to subregular, campanulate or infundibulariform; corolla-tubes (10-) 12-14 (-17) mm long, gibbous near the base with five nectaries, gradually widened towards apices, dense ferrugineously glandular pilose outside, glabrous or sparsely pilose inside at base; corolla-lobes imbricate, equal or subequal, ovate, 6-7 x 3-4.5 mm, apex acute or obtuse, glandular pilose outside, glabrous or glabrate inside. Stamens 5; filaments attached at base of corolla-tube, inserted, 13-16 mm long, compressed, sparsely hairy along the whole length or lower part sparsely hairy and upper part densely hairy; anthers remain at the throat of corolla-tube, slightly exerted, oblong, 2.75-3 x 1.5-1.75 mm, basifixed, truncate at both ends, curved hairy along the connective dorsally, glabrous ventrally, longitudinally dehiscent. Ovary 5-loculed, ovules many in each locule; style straight, (16-) 18-21 mm long, exerted, densely barbate towards base, sparsely hairy or even glabrous towards apex; stigma capitate or unevenly lobed. Fruit not seen.

**Type:** Arunachal Pradesh, Dibang Valley district, Tiwari Gaon, Mahao Sanctuary, c. 1500 m, 3 Jan. 1988, S.K. Das 2903 (holotype CAL); S.K. Das 2903A-2903D (isotypes ARUN).

**Flowers:** December-January.

**Ecology:** This scandent shrub grows in secondary forests and it has been collected at an altitude of c. 1500 m.

The new species is closely allied to *L. stipulata* (Hook. f. & Thoms.) Fritsch, but it can

be distinguished by the glabrate or even glabrous, conspicuously fistulose branches, large stipules and densely pilose style.

A key to the six species, including the new one described here, is given below for easy diagnosis:

KEY TO THE SPECIES OF *Leycesteria* WALL.

1. Leaves coriaceous, persistent, rugose or rugulose with impressed nerves above, densely lanuginous beneath.....2
1. Leaves herbaceous, deciduous, not rugose above, not lanuginous but pubescent or glaucescent beneath.....3
2. Branches sparsely to densely woolly, usually solid or at times narrowly fistulose; styles glabrous .....*L. stipulata*
2. Branches glabrate or even glabrous, consistently distinct fistulose; styles pilose.....  
.....*L. dibangvalliensis*
3. Ovary 5-loculed, densely glandular pubescent; bracteoles equalling or longer than ovary.....4
3. Ovary 8-loculed, glabrous, bracteoles shorter than ovary ..... *L. gracilis*
4. Stipulate; styles pubescent.....5
4. Exstipulate; styles glabrous..... *L. formosa*
5. Inflorescence usually axillary, rarely terminal or on short lateral branches; flowers in pairs; stipules very small; corolla whitish  
..... *L. glaucophylla*
5. Inflorescence terminal; flowers in sixes, pseudo-verticillate; stipules large, foliaceous; corolla orange-yellow.. *L. crocothyrsos*

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